

Washington DC – Wednesday, Congressman Harry Teague was honored by the Coalition for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans for his commitment to veterans’ issues. Also, this week the American Tinnitus Association named Teague as the “Legislator of the year” for his dedication to tinnitus issues among men and women in the military and veterans.

“The heroes of the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars – and all other veterans – have already made their sacrifices to our nation, and now it’s our turn to give them the services and support they have earned. It’s that simple,” said Harry Teague, a member of the House Veteran Affairs Committee. “That’s why I’ve made veterans’ issues a top priority. I am honored and humbled that these two organizations, which work so tirelessly for the benefit of our returning service men and women, have chosen to acknowledge my work.”

The Coalition for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans (CIAV) is comprised of organizations that provide much-needed services to veterans of the Global War on Terror and their families. “Congressman Teague has worked tirelessly on behalf of veterans, particularly in the areas of mental health, employment and homelessness, to ensure that when our warriors return home from war they get the care they deserve,” said Amy Fairweather, Program Director CIAV. CIAV acknowledged all of Teague’s efforts to support veterans, especially his Energy Jobs for Vets bill, which passed the House in March.

The American Tinnitus Association (ATA) selected Teague as “Legislator of the Year” in acknowledgement of his bill, the Veterans Hearing Assessment Act (H.R. 2506), which calls for the VA to screen veterans for tinnitus, a hearing impairment caused by combat noise. “The leadership demonstrated by Congressman Teague in support of increasing care and research for America’s veterans with tinnitus will benefit all who suffer from this sometimes debilitating condition,” said Michael Malusevic, ATA’s Executive Director. “Tinnitus remains the number one service connected disability for returning personnel from Iraq and Afghanistan so his efforts are even more worthy and timely. We are privileged to have the opportunity to recognize and thank him on behalf of tinnitus sufferers everywhere.”

Since coming to Washington, Congressman Teague has consistently advocated for veterans' issues. Just this month, the President signed the Veteran's Caregiver's Bill, which included Teague provisions, into law. He also supported the Energy Jobs for Vets bill, which has garnered much industry support. To grow support for veterans' issues in southern New Mexico, Teague started the “Veteran of the Month” program and has hosted veteran's roundtables, field hearings and organized events to raise awareness.



Congressman Harry Teague accepts the “Legislator of the Year” award from the American Tinnitus Association. From Left to Right: ATA Representative Deborah Outlaw, ATA Associate Executive Director Jennifer DuPriest, Congressman Harry Teague, ATA Executive Director Michael Malusevic



Congressman Harry Teague receives a certificate for his work on behalf of veterans from the Coalition for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans at the organization’s annual conference in Washington, DC.